



**Science and Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
Ocean County College, Technology Building
April 20, 2016, 9:00 am**

Attending STAC Members: Rob Karl (Vice-Chair, Brick MUA), Dr. Jim Vasslides (BBP), Charles Caruso (PPA), Matt Csik (OC Health Dept.), Dorina Frizzera (NJDEP), Dr. Steve Yergeau (RCE-Ocean), Alena Baldwin-Brown (DEP/DWM&S), Patrick Burritt (NJ Pinelands Commission), Jim Nickels (Monmouth Univ.), Carol Conklin (OCUA), Clint Lehman (RCTB), Victoria Pecchioli (OCPD), Nelson Santiago (OCHD), Gregg P. Sakowicz (Rutgers/JCNERR), Dr. Ron Baker (USGS).

On the Phone: Barbara Spinweber (USEPA, R2), Dr. Pete Rowe (NJ Sea Grant), Dr. Louise Wootton (GCU).

Guests: Lee Gashlin (Berkeley Water Commission).

Barnegat Bay Partnership Staff: Dr. Stan Hales, Mary Judge.

Welcome and introductions – R. Karl

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. and introductions were made.

Review of draft agenda and minutes of February 17th STAC Meeting – R. Karl

A motion to approve the minutes, with requested changes, was made by Ms. Frizzera. The motion was seconded by Mr. Caruso and was passed unanimously.

2016 State of the Bay Report and Conference – J. Vasslides

The document should be at the printers by the first week in May, at which point we'll work on a more interactive web version. We have been told that translation into Spanish will only take about two weeks. There will be an electronic Spanish version available on our website, and a printed Spanish version will be discussed. Partners were asked to help publicize this to anyone who might be interested.

The State of the Bay conference will be one-half day based on four panel discussions (5-6 panel members); short videos introducing the panel areas will describe the general findings of the indicators on the report. The panelists will have a moderator, discuss broadly based questions, and will include questions from the audience.

STAC Composition – J. Vasslides

The STAC charter was reviewed in regard to the size and composition of the STAC. As currently written, the STAC can have a maximum of 30 members, including regular and at-large members. As of the June meeting there will be 23 active members, leaving 7 possible at-large seats available. A discussion of the nominating process for at-large members and needs for additional expertise followed. Mr. Karl will reach out to the Monmouth County Planning Board, as potential geographic gaps around the watershed was discussed. Other suggestions included a municipal engineer and the shellfish industry. Available seats will be advertised, emphasizing the commitment expected from an at-large member. A motion to advertise the open seats and requesting nominations was made by Mr. Nickels. The motion was seconded by Dr. Yergeau and passed unanimously. **Dr. Vasslides will send an email to the BBP mailing lists, indicating that at-large seat(s) are available and that we are seeking nominations (and self-nominations, asking for a statement of interest and a resume).** The nomination deadline is mid-May, and immediately after the close of nominations election packets will be sent to STAC members, to be returned by June for consideration at the June 8th STAC meeting.

NJDEP Barnegat Bay Initiative Final Reports

The NJDEP is in the process of developing policy recommendations and next steps as the result of the 10 studies. There are 10 action teams, as well as 10 action items. Action teams will take the lead on coordinating the strategies for that particular team and it will be their responsibility to reach out to the other involved programs. The timing for release of information has not been determined.

Results of the research projects were very briefly discussed, as well as the usefulness of the P.I.s presenting to the STAC. Other potential presentations were discussed. A suggestion was made to have Joe Bilinski from the Division of Science, Research, and Environmental Health come to the June meeting to give an overview, results, and next steps. A request was also made to have an additional presentation(s) on hydrodynamics and water quality monitoring. Then, based on these presentations, the STAC can determine if they would like to invite PIs to give more detailed presentations at future meetings.

A request was made to provide a printed summary of these presentations. The final reports are available, but the NJDEP can't commit to providing the abstracts on a date certain.

Prospectus Update

Discussions regarding updates to the Prospectus were tabled to the next meeting. Dr. Vasslides asked that if members had written comments on the Prospectus to please send them to him ahead of the June 8th meeting. If there is clear consensus on some items, Dr. Vasslides will send an email summarizing same. As people send in additional comments, they will be shared with the STAC. If there's something you do not want shared with the STAC as a whole, please be specific in the email.

Partner Updates

Dr. Vasslides provided an update on upcoming BBP events, including the Barnegat Bay Festival (June 5th) and Gala (June 3rd). The next STAC meeting is June 8th.

At the last Advisory Committee meeting the USEPA brought in a staff member to discuss the TMDL process. Their powerpoint presentation will be distributed by the BBP and may be posted on the BBP website.

The date for the next pathogen workgroup meeting will be forthcoming. Concerns with septic plans are being received by Lakewood -- the new designs coming in are problematic but the OCHD is limited in its ability to intercede. Mr. Csik will speak with Mr. Karl further about this issue.

The next NJ Water Monitoring Council meeting is May 19th (Wetlands Monitoring and Assessment). Ms. Maxwell-Doyle will present on MACWA work and Ms. Frizzera will speak about other coastal wetlands work. The meeting is being held in Pennington at the Stonybrook Millstone Watershed Association, where there are on-site constructed wetlands that will be viewed during the lunch break.

The Brick Township MUA gave an update on the two 319 grants. The retrofit of a Howell Twp. Basin is complete. The other grant involves Lakewood Township demonstration projects around Lake Carasaljo and a retrofit of a basin.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 10:35.